

## WOULD MAKE WHITRIDGE THIRD AVE. R. R. HEAD

Presidency of Reorganized Company To Be Offered to Receiver When He Retires.

### SILENT AS TO ACCEPTING

Petition for Turning Over Property to New Interests December 31 Is Made to Court—Will Be Approved To-day.

Frederick W. Whitridge, receiver for the Third Avenue Railroad Company, will get an offer of the presidency of the company when he turns over the railroad to the shareholders at midnight on December 31. A man closely connected with the reorganization of the Third Avenue Railroad said last night that he had no doubt Mr. Whitridge would accept the offer.

When Mr. Whitridge was seen last night at his home, No. 16 East 11th street, he said the interests in control of the new company had discussed the presidency with him, but that no offer had been made to him as yet.

"They are looking for the best man," Mr. Whitridge said with a smile, "and as it would appear from the various reports of the Public Service Commission that the Commission will put the new cars on the Third Avenue Railroad and is directly responsible for all the improvements made in the service of that company, I suppose the interests in control will look to the Commission for the best man for the job."

Mr. Whitridge would not say whether or not he would accept the presidency if the offer was made to him.

In the four years during which Mr. Whitridge has been receiver of the Third Avenue Railroad he has passed through many controversies with the Public Service Commission. All the orders of the Commission had a great deal of sarcastic attention from him, and he published at his own expense a pamphlet popularly called "Letters of a Receiver to the Public Service Commission," which was regarded as highly entertainment.

A petition to have the railway property turned over to those who will control it under the perfected reorganization plan was made yesterday before Judge LaCombe, of the United States Circuit Court. There is no doubt that the petition, which was purely formal, will be approved by the court to-day.

Counsel for the various interests affected expressed their agreement to the granting of the petition yesterday, and the only reason why it was not approved at that time was because some minor changes in the petition might be necessary.

The property of the Third Avenue Railroad Company was bought in by the bondholders of the company at a foreclosure sale in 1906. The bondholders' committee then proceeded to reorganize the company, but its plan was disapproved by the Public Service Commission on the ground that the issue of new securities was too large. The matter was taken to the courts, and recently the Court of Appeals decided against the Commission.

A petition was filed yesterday on behalf of the bondholders' committee asking for a hearing so that the accounts of the receiver might be submitted. The financial condition of the company under the receivership was described in that petition as follows:

### BIG PRINCETON ENROLMENT

Passes 1,500 Mark for First Time in Princeton's History.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 26.—The present enrollment of Princeton University is greater than at any time in the history of the institution, there being 1,543 men enrolled, as compared with 1,118 last year. The biggest gains over last year are to be found in the senior and freshman classes.

New York still heads the list in number of students, with 490, while Princeton is in second place. Every state in the Union has at least one student at the institution, and there are eleven from foreign countries.

### MAGISTRATE BUTTS SUED

Water Department Engineer Wants \$25,000, Charging False Arrest.

Wouldn't Let Him In.

Magistrate Arthur C. Butts, of the Fifth Avenue station, Brooklyn, was held in \$1,500 bail yesterday by Magistrate Harris in the Butler street court charged with felonious assault. Butts attempted to shoot his wife early yesterday morning while they were having a quarrel. They live at No. 490 Vanderbilt Avenue. Butts, who has been on the force ten years, appeared in the court yesterday with his uniform covered with mud. He begged his wife to withdraw her complaint and when she proved obdurate asked Magistrate Hart to parole him in the custody of his captain. This was also refused.

According to Mrs. Hackett's story, she had ordered her husband from the house several days ago on the understanding that he and his shirtless wife would return to her early yesterday morning, and when she refused to admit him to the house, drew a revolver and threatened to shoot him which struck the wall as Mrs. Hackett fell to the floor in fright. When arrested by Lieutenant Murphy of the Bergen street station, it was said he was under the influence of liquor. He was released in \$500 bail and was again arrested about six o'clock last night on a charge of intoxication by Sergeant Boyle of the Bergen street station.

### THERE WERE SOME BAD TURKEYS

The Department of Health received a communication from a resident of West 21st street yesterday saying that a "rotten and embalmed" turkey had spoiled the Christmas dinner in his household. He returned early yesterday morning, and when she refused to admit him to the house, drew a revolver and threatened to shoot him which struck the wall as Mrs. Hackett fell to the floor in fright. When arrested by Lieutenant Murphy of the Bergen street station, it was said he was under the influence of liquor. He was released in \$500 bail and was again arrested about six o'clock last night on a charge of intoxication by Sergeant Boyle of the Bergen street station.

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### SUGGESTIONS FOR WALDO'S "STRONG ARM GENTLEMEN."

The Police Department has sent out a special squad of policemen disguised in fashionable attire to break up the "panhandlers."



WHY NOT COLLECT THE PANHANDLERS IN THIS FASHION



BRINGIN' EM IN

### FAITH HURLS BACK WAVES

Wife of Master of Little Brig Calm in 21-Day Hurricane.

Mrs. Addie Edwards's faith overcame mountainous seas. The young woman, whose husband is still master of the little brig Motley, thanks to her smiling bravery, stepped off the Hamburg-American liner Allemanna yesterday, twenty-four hours late for a Christmas celebration with relatives in Brooklyn, after spending twenty-one days in a Gulf hurricane, which nearly wiped out her husband's boat and his little family.

"It was the worst storm I ever encountered," said Mrs. Edwards, who, since her thirty-year-old son was born, has spent the larger part of her time on the Motley. "I thought every minute the ship would be turned over in the hurricane. I prayed for hours that we might be saved, and when the men were working at the pumps I stood among them giving encouragement."

The Motley was bound from Mobile for Mayaguez, Porto Rico, with lumber, a trip that normally would have taken her a week. She had committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. The body was found by an Italian employee at the quarry about one hundred feet from the highway.

Mr. Patterson had recently come from Lincoln, Neb., on a visit to his daughter here. He was a neighbor and personal friend of William J. Bryan, and in the Presidential campaign of 1896 managed Bryan's interests in Nebraska. Mr. Patterson came east 6 months ago, suffering from nervous prostration, and he planned to spend some time with his daughter. He would not take the leadership. "I do not want to be a figurehead," he said.

He resigned the honor in a letter to Alderman John D. Birney, who was chairman of the caucus. Another caucus has been called for noon to-morrow to select a man to take the place scorned by him. Some of his friends think that possibly Curran may be forced to resign the chairmanship to which he was chosen, and that an entirely new man will be named for both places.

It was said last night, however, that the caucus decision on Curran and the division of the places would stand, and that another man would be chosen solely as majority leader. It will probably be Alderman Ralph Polk, although Aldermen Davis and Hamilton are candidates.

As the full caucus on Friday decided that Manhattan and the Bronx should have the majority leadership, only those members will meet to select the leader. The caucus will be held in the City Hall.

The Brooklyn and Queens members have their own troubles deciding on a man for the vice-chairmanship to succeed Alderman Bent. They are to have another caucus on it to-night, but it was said last night that they were far from reaching a solution. Alderman Esterbrook, Morrison, Downing, Gaynor and Kline are all candidates.

Mr. Patterson left his daughter's home at 6 o'clock Sunday morning to go to church, but apparently he did not carry out his expressed purpose. When he failed to return home for dinner the family became alarmed and before night the police were requested to search for him.

For several years prior to engaging in the hardware business Mr. Patterson was a travelling salesman, and at one time was president of the Travelling Men's Association of Nebraska. He was president of the Nebraska Bryan Club and a veteran of the Civil war.

An investigation showed that Mr. Patterson had crawled at least seventy-five feet from the spot where he had cut himself, for a trail of blood was found leading from a pool, indicating that he had tried to reach a dense spot in the woods away from the main road. Near the pool of blood was a razor.

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The letter of Alderman Bolles to Alderman Diemer follows:

After careful consideration of the entire situation, I have decided to decline the honorary position of floor leader of the fusion majority tendered me by the caucus of the fusion members of the bar last Friday.

I was a candidate for the position of chairman of the Finance Committee, which usually, and I think properly, carries with it the floor leadership. I declined it for failing to attend an safeguarding the interests of the city presented by a fusion contractor. The Board of Aldermen are largely experienced men, and I do not believe they would take advantage of single-headed leadership. Divided power makes for inefficiency.

The first suggestion of a division of power and responsibility came on Friday afternoon, after 4 o'clock, on the eve of the caucus. It was a complete surprise to me, and as the urgent solicitation of Samuel S. Koenig, chairman of the Fusion Majority Committee, I acquiesced at the moment. Under all the circumstances, and after mature deliberation and discussion, I do not believe that the largest measure of efficiency of the fusion majority of the board, I cannot accept the position of floor leader.

At the end Alderman Bolles assured the fusion members of his cordial support and co-operation.

"But I want to go back," interjected the prisoner.

"I can discharge the prisoner," the magistrate then said. "If the New Jersey officer desire it and let him return voluntarily."

"If you say you will go with me, come on," said Tantum; but McConnel began a speech so incoherent that the magistrate decided to hold him until formal papers arrived.

"I have no denial to make," said McConnell. "Of course, I shot my wife, and I only came on to get advice and try to decide what I should do. The fact is I would have gone back before they arrested me, but I didn't have the courage."

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